

Submitter: Jeanne Roy

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2684

I am writing in strong support of House Bill 2684 to protect Oregon students and staff from unnecessary pesticide exposure on their school grounds.

Because of my interaction with parents in West Linn schools, I know that children play on grounds that have been sprayed. Children are especially vulnerable to pesticide exposure due to their developing immune and nervous systems. HB 2684 ensures that school districts review, update if needed, and readopt plans every five years. The need is to ensure that plans are up to date using the latest research-backed strategies.

Currently, many parents and educators are unaware of the pesticides used in their schools. HB 2684 requires school districts to make their Integrated Pest Management plans and low-impact pesticide lists available online, ensuring families and school staff have easy access to critical safety information.

Most of our elementary schools in the Metro area have gardens that are important learning spaces for students. The law needs to be updated to make sure school gardens are protected from pesticide drift and deposition.

I urge you to support HB 2684 to protect students and staff by ensuring stronger, more transparent, and science-based pest management practices in Oregon schools.